

## Message Text

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APPROVED BY: NEA:AEGRIFFIN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 193720 TOSEC 200035

FOR ATHERTON

FOLLOWING REPEAT TEHRAN 07926 ACTION SECSTATE DTD 04 AUG

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C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 7926

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH, IR, USIRJC

SUBJ: NUCLEAR ENERGY DISCUSSIONS

REF: TEHRAN 7886

1. SUMMARY: DESPITE MINUTELY DETAILED CRITICISM BY IRANIAN ATOMIC ENERGY ORGANIZATION STAFF, OF U.S. DRAFT STATMENT OF PRINCIPLES FOR REPORCESSING REFLECTING APPROACH SUMMARIZED IN REFTEL, ETEMAD HAS CONTINUED TO TAKE CONCILIATORY APPROACH, AND FURTHER DISCUSSION HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR TOMORROW. COMMITTEE REPORT TO JOINT COMMISSION

,  
APPROVED BY ETEMAD, NOTES SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS MADE SINCE PREVIOUS  
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COMMISSION MEETING IN DEFINING PRINCIPLES OF AGREEMENT AND CONCLUDES

THAT"AS RESULT OF FURTHER PROGRESS MADE IN PRESENT MEETING, REALISTIC BASIS FOR PROCEEDING WITH DETAILED NEGOTIATIONS NEW EXISTS." IT RECOMMENDS NEGOTIATIONS GO FORWARD WITH VIEW TOWARD EARLY CONCLUSION OF AGREEMENT." END SUMMARY

2. AT LENGTHY MEETING WITH IAEA STAFF TODAY, WITHOUT BENEFIT OF ETEMAD'S PRESENCE, STAFF ENGAGED IN HIGHLY DETAILED DISSECTION OF DRAFT STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES DEVELOPED BY USDEL FOLLOWING YESTERDAY'

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MEETING. STRONGEST CRITICISM WAS DIRECTED AT POSSIBLE ADVERSE ECONOMIC EFFECT ON IRAN OF U.S. RIGHTS OF CONTROL OVER FUEL CYCLE, AT REQUIREMENT FOR SUPPLIER INVOLVEMENT IN IRANIAN REPROCESSING PLANT, AND AT U.S. RIGHTS OF APPROVAL OF TRANSFERS TO THIRD COUNTRIES, EVEN IF THEY ACCEPT SAME SAFEGUARDS AS THOSE SPECIFIED IN US-IRAN AGREEMENT. HOWEVER, IN CONCLUDING SESSION ATTENDED BY ETEMAD, HE DISPLAYED CONSIDERABLY MORE CONCILIATORY ATTITUDE AND OBVIOUS DESIRE TO ARRIVE AT AGREED SET OF PRINCIPLES. HIS MAIN THEME FOR TODAY, OBVIOUSLY DERIVED FROM STAFF ANALYSIS, WAS THAT WHILE IRAN IS PREPARED TO GO ALONG WITH SPECIAL CONTROLS REQUIRED BY US, IT DOES NOT CONSIDER THEM NECESSARY TO ASSURE NON-PROLIFERATION, AND US SHOULD THEREFORE BEAR ANY EXTRA COSTS WHICH THOSE CONTROLS IMPOSE ON IRAN. OVERALL RESULT IS THAT WHILE STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES IS NOT AGREED, AND USDEL UNDERTOOK TO TRY TO ACCOMMODATE SOME OF IRANIAN POINTS, GENERAL US APPROACH STILL SEEMS ACCEPTABLE. TODAY'S SESSION RECONFIRMED CONCLUSION THAT IAEA STAFF'S HIGHLY THEORETICAL AND NEGATIVE APPROACH TOWARD RESTRAINTS IS MAJOR INFLUENCE ON ETEMAD, WHO PLAYS MODERATING ROLE.

3. ETEMAD WAS CLEARLY ANXIOUS TO SUBMIT AFFIRMATIVE REPORT TO JOINT COMMISSION, AND WE BELIEVE THIS STEP WILL HELP, BUT NOT NECESSARILY ENSURE THAT FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS WILL STAY ON TRACK. ETEMAD INDICATED THAT SESSION TOMORROW MORNING WOULD BE LAST HE COULD ATTEND, AND THAT HE WOULD BE PREPARED THEN TO DISCUSS TIME-TABLE FOR FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS. TOMORROW'S SESSION WILL REVIEW POINTS BEYOND MAIN ISSUE OF REPROCESSING, WHICH HAS OCCUPIED ALL DISCUSSION TO DATE. WE EXPECT SESSION TO CONCLUDE WITH UNDERSTANDING THAT USDEL WILL ATTEMPT TO REFINE STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES FOR REPROCESSING, AND AGREEMENT TO MEET AGAIN IN COMING WEEKS.

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